Express Mail Label # EL 914109033 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF DR. NORBERT MILLER ET AL

FOR: METHOD FOR PREVENTING THE FALSIFICATION OF ACCESS CARDS

AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Before examining the present application, please amend as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete page 6.

Please insert the following section title before the first paragraph on the first page:
--FIELD OF THE INVENTION--

Please insert the following section title before the second paragraph on the first page:
--DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART--

1

Please amend the third paragraph on the first page in the following clean format:

--In the transportation ticket access card technology, a customer is issued an identification card ("I.D.") as proof of authorization to obtain a transportation service. These ticket I.D. cards generally contain imprints in plain text, such as about--

Please insert the following section title before the first paragraph on the third page:
--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Please insert the following section title before the first complete paragraph on page five, that is, before the paragraph beginning, "Further advantages and * * *" :
--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

Please insert the following section title before the third complete paragraph on page five, that is, before the paragraph beginning, "In method step 1 * * *":
--DETAILED DESCRIPTION--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims in "clean" format.

1. (Amended) Method for preventing the falsification of access cards containing a plain text information that identifies a type of authorization, the method comprising:
    encoding the plain text information by applying a key; and
    introducing a code onto an access card.

2. (Amended) Method pursuant to claim 1, further comprising applying the code with an imprinting process.

3. (Amended) Method pursuant to claim 1, further comprising making the code machine-readable.

4. (Amended) Method pursuant to claim 1, further comprising converting the code back into plain text information by using the key.

5. (Amended) Method pursuant to claim 1, further comprising reproducing the code.

6. (Amended) Method pursuant to claim 1, further comprising checking the plain text information with the code by using the key, wherein the key is stored in a computer.

7. (Amended) Method pursuant to claim 6, further comprising selecting respectively different keys as a function of features of the respective access card.

8. (Amended) Method pursuant to claim 6, further comprising using a secret key.

9. (Amended) Identification card with plain text information for identifying a type of authorization, the identification card comprising a code that can be determined from a plain text information by using a key.

10. (Amended) Identification card pursuant to claim 9, further comprising an imprinted code.

11. (Amended) Identification card pursuant to claim 9, further comprising a machine-readable code.

REMARKS

Applicants request entry of the present amendments that conform the claims to U.S. practice. No new matter is being introduced by this Amendment as antecedent support is set forth in the original specification and in the original claims. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made. The attached page is captioned **"Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."**

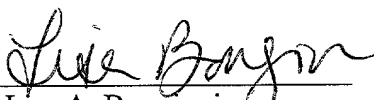Prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's Attorneys at the below-listed telephone number regarding this Preliminary Amendment or otherwise regarding the present application.

If there are any charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicants' attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

DR. NORBERT MILLER ET AL.

CANTOR COLBURN LLP
Applicants' Attorneys

By:_____
Lisa A. Bongiovi
Registration No. 48,933
Customer No. 23413

Date: January 4, 2002
Address: 55 Griffin Road South, Bloomfield, CT 06002
Telephone: 860-286-2929

MARKED UP VERSION TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

<u>IN THE SPECIFICATION:</u>

Please amend the third paragraph on the first page in the following marked up format:

--In the transportation ticket access card technology, a customer is issued an identification card ("I.D.") as proof of authorization to obtain a transportation service. These ticket I.D. cards generally contain imprints in plain text, such as about--

<u>IN THE CLAIMS:</u>

A marked-up version of the Claims is as follows:

1. (Marked up/Amended) Method for preventing the falsification of access cards containing a plain text information that identifies ~~the~~ a type of authorization, ~~whereby~~ the method comprising:

encoding the plain text information ~~is encoded~~ by applying a key; and

introducing ~~the~~ a ~~resulting~~ code ~~is introduced~~ onto ~~the~~ an access card.

2. (Marked up/Amended) Method pursuant to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising applying the code ~~is applied~~ with an imprinting process.

3. (Marked up/Amended) Method pursuant to ~~one of the previous~~ claims 1, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising making the code ~~is made~~ machine-readable.

4. (Marked up/Amended) Method pursuant to ~~one of the previous~~ claims 1, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising converting the code ~~can be converted~~ back into plain text information by using the key.

5. (Marked up/Amended) Method pursuant to ~~one of the previous~~ claims 1, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising reproducing the code ~~can be reproduced~~.

6. (Marked up/Amended) Method pursuant to ~~one of the previous~~ claims 1, ~~characterized in that,~~ further comprising checking ~~with the help of a computer the agreement of the~~ the plain text information with the code ~~can be checked~~ by using ~~a~~ the key, wherein the key is stored in ~~the~~ a computer.

5

7. (Marked up/Amended) Method pursuant to claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~further comprising selecting ~~the~~respectively different keys ~~are selected~~as a function of features of the respective access card.

8. (Marked up/Amended) Method ~~according~~ pursuant to claim 6 ~~or claim 7~~, ~~characterized in that~~further comprising using a secret key~~is used~~.

9. (Marked up/Amended) Identification card with plain text information for identifying ~~the~~a type of authorization, the identification card comprising ~~characterized in that it contains~~a code that can be determined from ~~the~~a plain text information by using a key.

10. (Marked up/Amended) Identification card pursuant to claim 9, ~~characterized in that it contains~~further comprising an imprinted code.

11. (Marked up/Amended) Identification card pursuant to ~~one of the~~claims 9 ~~or 10, characterized in that it contains~~further comprising a machine-readable code.

6